Beginning June 6, 2022, landlords or attorneys can **electronically** file new Baltimore County failure to pay rent cases.

A single failure to pay rent case or multiple cases can be submitted within a filing session.

If multiple cases are included in a batch, all complaints must be the same case type, i.e., either Failure to Pay Rent **or** Failure to Pay Rent (mobile home). Non-mobile home complaints may not be submitted in the same batch as mobile home complaints. Additionally, all cases included in a batch must contain the same filing code, i.e., Filing Code - Complaint/Petition – Landlord Tenant **or** Complaint/Petition – Landlord Tenant (Personal Service).

Complaints requesting personal service either by sheriff/constable or arranged by the landlord may not be submitted in the same batch as complaints where just posting/mail service is requested.

Requirements for e-filing failure to pay rent complaints

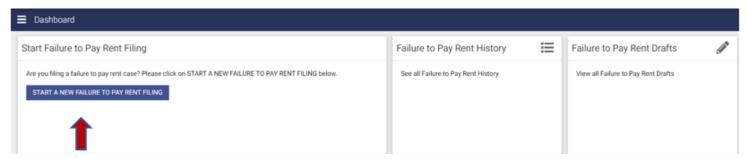
- 1. Register to become an authorized e-filer. In order to e-file, users must first be registered with the Odyssey File and Serve portal. Registration instructions can be located by following the links below:
 - Registration for attorneys
 - Registration for non-attorneys
- 2. Complete a complaint form for each property and save each one as a separate PDF. You will upload the form(s) as you e-file.
- 3. File the **initial** failure to pay rent complaint into the <u>Landlord Tenant (LLT) portal</u> your case is created here. Important: Use the link at the top of the page that is specific to filing failure to pay rent complaints. Multiple complaints can be submitted together and will be assigned the same hearing date. Complaints filed together must all be personal service by Constable/Sheriff or private/personal service that you arrange.
- 4. File all **subsequent** filings by using the <u>Odyssey File and Serve portal</u> once your case number is assigned.

E-File the Initial Complaint into the Landlord Tenant (LLT) Portal

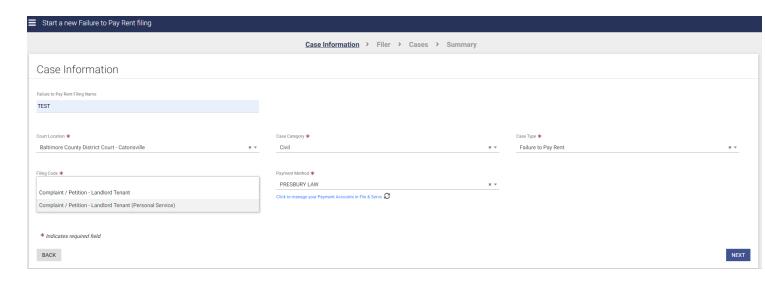
1. Navigate to the <u>landlord-tenant portal</u>. Look for the link that is specific to filing failure to pay rent complaints. Sign in with your Odyssey File and Serve email and password assigned at registration.



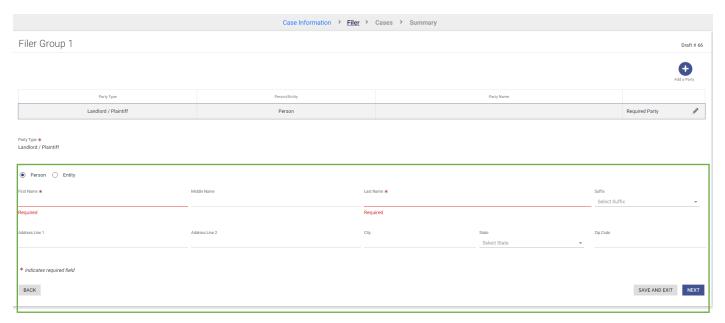
2. Click the "Start A New Failure to Pay Rent Filing" button to create a draft filing.



- 3. Enter the basic case information for the Failure to Pay Rent Filing. Filers can create an optional **batch filing name** to title the batch and distinguish it from other batches they may be filed.
 - Batch Filing Name Label created by the filer to easily identify/differentiate the filing
 - Court Location Location of property
 - Case Category Civil
 - Case Type Failure to Pay Rent or Failure to Pay Rent Mobile Home
 - Filing Code Complaint/Petition Landlord Tenant or Complaint/Petition Landlord Tenant (Personal Service). Note: If you are requesting a **money judgment**, select Complaint/Petition Landlord Tenant (**Personal Service**).
 - Payment Method Debit/Credit Card or eCheck on file for any related filing fees

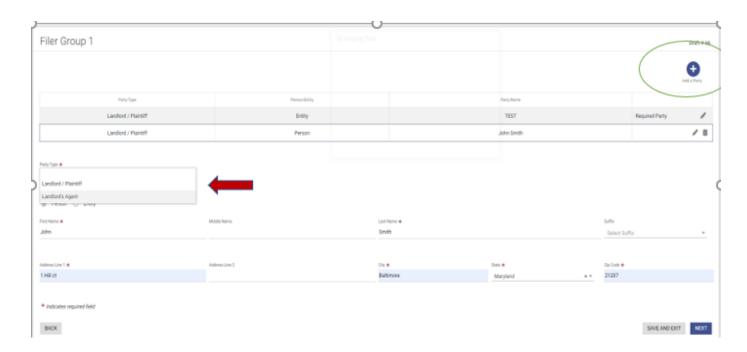


4. Click Next and continue to the Filer screen where you will enter the name and address of the landlord. Click Next to continue.

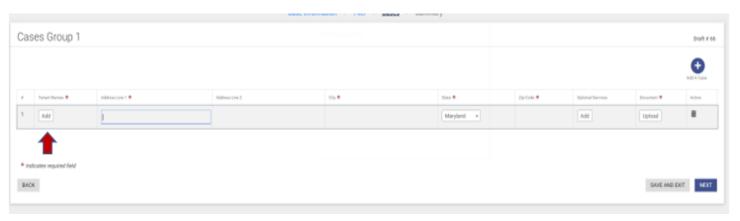


5. If you need to add another party to the filing, select the "Add a Party" button at the top right of the screen under the Filer Group 1 section. The screenshot below illustrates a landlord's agent party type being added. Property management companies commonly represent landlords as rent agents.

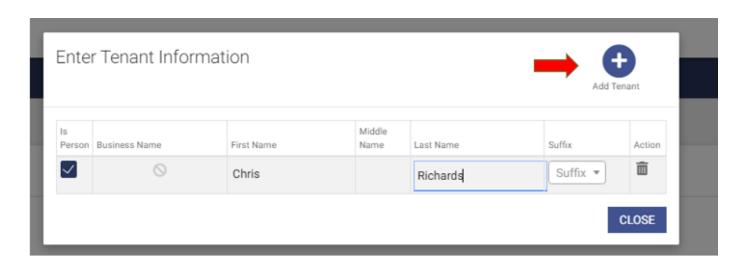
Judicial Information Systems



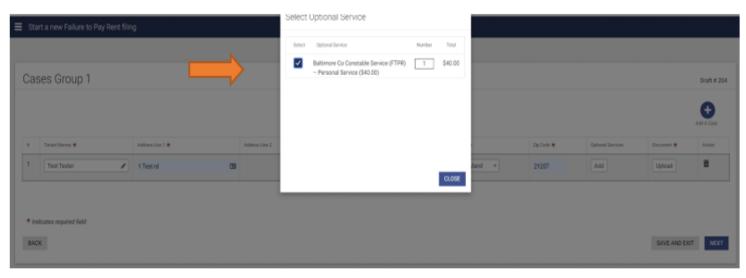
6. Click Next to continue to the Cases screen and select the "Add" button (on the left) to enter the tenant/defendant.



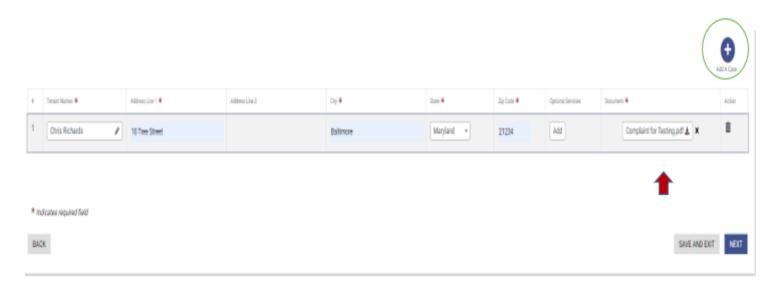
7. If the property has more than one name on the lease, additional tenants can be added by selecting the "Add Tenant" button. Click Close to continue.



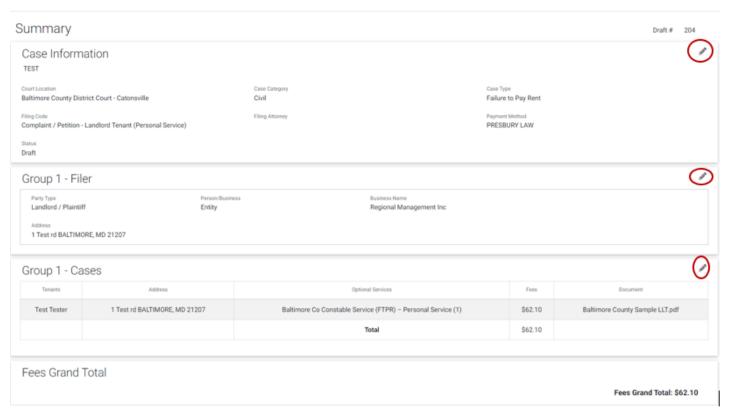
8. If requesting personal service by Sheriff or Constable, add the fee from the "Optional Services" tab. If you are using a private process server, do <u>not</u> select a fee from the optional services.



9. Upload your Landlord Tenant complaint form. The form must be saved in pdf format before uploading. If you have additional properties to file against, click the "Add A Case" button and repeat steps 6-9.



10. Continue to the Summary screen and review the case information, filer, cases, and fees sections for errors. A pencil icon is located at the top right corner of each section if edits need to be made.



11. After reviewing the filing details, select **ALL** three submission agreement checkboxes and click Submit. A submittal notification will be sent to your registered email address.



A filing remains in "draft" status until you select **ALL** three submission agreement checkboxes and click Submit. After a filing session is complete and the filing(s) has been submitted, a system-generated **batch number** is assigned to the submission for identification purposes.

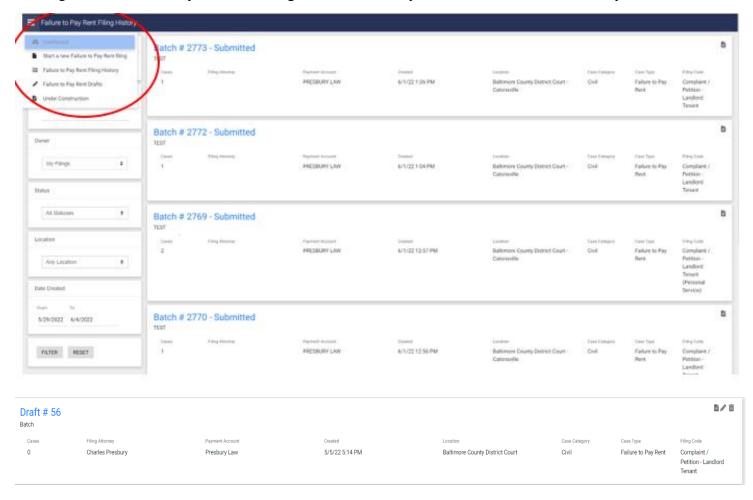
E-File into an Existing Case

- 1. If you have an existing failure to pay rent case, you can file into it using the <u>Odyssey File and Serve filer portal</u>. After you sign in, you will use the "File into Existing Case" option.
- 2. Review the "File into Existing Case" section of the MDEC Policies and Procedures Manual for further instruction.

Batch History

The Batch history screen can be located under the hamburger icon (three stacked horizontal lines) on the top left of the homepage. The drop-down menu displays a history of all previous batches submitted by the

filer. The history screen has a search function allowing filers to filter results based on specific criteria such as filing status and date. If you have a filing in "draft" status, you can find it here and resume your draft.



Support

For technical support, contact the Maryland Judiciary Service Desk at 410-260-1114 or mdcourts@service-now.com.

For assistance with case information or direction on which documents need to be filed, contact the <u>District</u> <u>Court</u> at the location of the property.